

THE CHICKERING FAMILY
and the Ancestry of
MARY CHICKERING NICHOLS



"Some years ago a member of the Chickering family caused the records in England to be searched, and, it is said, found that Simon Chickering" (father of our American ancestor Nathaniel) "was a son of Stephen Chickering, who lived at Wicklewood, England, and died in 1576."* Another painstaking investigator records that "Stephen Chickering the eldest son of Thomas Chickering who resided in Wymondham, County of Norfolk, England, in the Reign of Henry VIII, lived at Wicklewood (a village adjoining Wymondham) and died in 1576," and that "Henry Chickering (eldest son of Stephen Chickering the resident of Wicklewood just mentioned) removed to Ringsfield, in the county of Norfolk, and died in 1627."

More lately the discovery of certain wills and parish records, as will presently appear, ‡ has established beyond question that Simon Chickering was son of Henry who died in 1627 in Ringsfield, England, showing that while it is probable that Simon was directly descended from Stephen of Wicklewood, the first above statement is incorrect in making him his son, while the statements of the next following authority make it appear that the true line of descent is probably as follows: Thomas of Wymondham living in the reign of Henry VIII;—Stephen of Wicklewood who died in 1576;—Henry of Ringsfield who died in 1627,

*Quoted from an article by Frank Smith in the Dedham Historical Register of July, 1892, page 117.

‡See page 7.